

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides *Listeria* that are attenuated for entry into non-phagocytic cells as well as a variety of methods of inducing immune responses involving administering compositions comprising the attenuated *Listeria*. Some of the attenuated *Listeria* are mutant *Listeria* that comprise at least one mutation in a gene encoding an invasin, such as an internalin. Some of the attenuated *Listeria* are further attenuated for cell-to-cell spread. Pharmaceutical compositions and vaccines useful in the methods of the invention are further provided. Methods of making and improving vaccines are also provided.